

# **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING ACCESS TO FILES ASSOCIATED WITH A VIRTUAL SERVER**

## **ABSTRACT**

One embodiment of the present invention provides a system for controlling access to files within a plurality of virtual servers. Each of these virtual servers operates within a separate virtual environment on a single computing device. In operation, a server computing device first accepts a file access request from a client. Next, the server computing device determines if the file access request originated from within a virtual server. Note that each virtual server operates within a virtual environment that is insulated from other virtual environments associated with other virtual servers. If the file access request originated from within the virtual server, the server computing device determines if the file access request is for a new file. If so, the server computing device assigns an identifier to the new file, wherein the identifier can be used to identify the virtual server that created the file. Finally, the server computing device creates the new file within a storage area associated with the server computing device..